

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 are pending herein. Claim 2 has been withdrawn by the PTO. The features of claim 4 are now recited in independent claim 1, and claim 4 has been cancelled hereby. Independent claim 1 has also been amended to further clarify the composition of the transparent base material film and a composition of the antistatic hardcoat layer. Applicants respectfully submit that support for rewritten claim 1 can be found in paragraphs [0038], [0039] and [0051] of the original specification and that no new matter has been added.

An RCE is filed herewith because the changes to the claims made hereby clearly create new issues that would require further search and consideration by the Examiner, and thus would not have been entered after final rejection without an RCE.

1. The priority document was timely furnished to WIPO and made available to the U.S. PTO upon request. A copy of the priority document as filed with WIPO is submitted herewith.
2. The objection to the Abstract is noted, but rendered moot in view of the rewritten Abstract submitted above. Although Applicants do not concede that the prior version of the Abstract contained informalities subject to such an objection, the Abstract has nonetheless been amended hereby in a cooperative effort to further the prosecution of this application.

3. Claims 1, 4 and 7 were rejected under §102(b) over WO '550; claim 3 was rejected under §103(a) over WO '550 in view of Matsufuji; claim 5 was rejected under §103(a) over WO '550 in view of Ono; and claim 6 was rejected under §103(a) over WO '550 in view of EP '489. Applicants respectfully submit that the above rejection is moot with respect to claim 4 in view of the cancellation of that claim. To the extent that the PTO might attempt to assert these rejections against the rewritten claims submitted above, they are respectfully traversed.

Rewritten independent claim 1 recites that a composition of the antistatic hardcoat contains the antistatic agent, the ionizing radiation curing resin, and an ester solvent which can penetrate into the transparent base material film, and further specifies that the transparent base material film is a triacetylcellulose film, and that the antistatic agent is a quaternary ammonium cation-containing structure.

The antireflection film according to the present invention including the above technical features prevents the occurrence of interference fringes, has antistatic properties, excellent coating film adhesion, and has good transparency of the coating film, even after a high-temperature test and high-humidity test.

In Examples 1 and 3 of the present specification, the transparent base material and coating compositions for the formation of antistatic hardcoat layers are within the scope of the present invention now defined in claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that it is understood from Table 1 that the above advantages of the present invention are obtained in Examples 1 and 3.

WO '550 discloses a plastic film comprising a transparent plastic substrate, a primer layer and a functional layer, such as a hardcoat layer. Further, WO '550 discloses the hardcoat layer is formed by using a composition containing methyl ethyl ketone as a solvent. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that WO '550 fails to disclose or suggest a hardcoat layer formed on a triacetylcellulose film using a composition containing an ionizing radiation curing resin and the quaternary ammonium cation-containing structure and ester solvent recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is clearly different from anything disclosed in WO '550, which simply fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature recited in independent claim 1.

Matsufuji discloses a cellulose acrylate film with a functional thin film as a hardcoat layer, Ono discloses a flame retardant aromatic polycarbonate resin composition, and EP '489 discloses an antistatic agent. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that Matsufuji, Ono and EP '489 all fail to disclose or suggest a hardcoat layer formed on a triacetylcellulose film using a composition containing the claimed ionizing radiation curing resin, the claimed quaternary ammonium cation-containing structure and the claimed ester solvent. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that Matsufuji, Ono and EP '489 do not overcome the deficiencies of EP '550.

Since the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature recited in independent claim 1 for at least the reasons explained above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, and all claims depending directly or

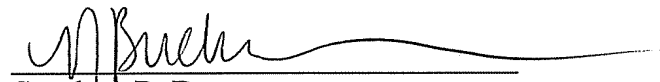
indirectly therefrom, define patentable subject matter over the applied references, and respectfully request that the above rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

If Examiner Lavarias believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

March 16, 2011
Date


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Attachment:

Certified Copy of Priority Document of JP 2004-108378 (16 pages)

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